

## Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 22, 23 and 33 have been amended. Claims 31 and 32 have been cancelled.

Therefore, claims 22-30 and 33-41 are presented for examination.

Applicant acknowledges that claims 24-27 have been allowed. In addition, applicant acknowledges that claims 37-41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 22-23 and 28-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Mizuno et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,682,287). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over Mizuno.

Mizuno discloses an electronic odometer for a wheeled vehicle having a non-volatile memory circuit that includes a main memory having cells in sequence for non-volatility storing first data indicative of a unit mileage of the vehicle upon each application of the first data to the memory circuit. The memory circuit also includes an auxiliary memory having cells in sequence for non-volatility storing second data indicative of 256 times of the unit mileage upon each application of the second data to the memory circuit. A microcomputer repetitively determines the unit mileage in relation to the actual vehicle speed to search each cell of the main memory as to storage of the first data in each cell of the main memory. The microcomputer applied the first data to the memory circuit upon each search of no storage of the first data in at least one cell of the main memory and also applies the second data to the memory circuit upon each search of storage of the first data in each cell of the main memory. Upon application of the second data to the memory circuit, the first data is erased from each

cell of the main memory. A display indicates a total mileage of the vehicle based on the contents in the memory circuit. See Mizuno at Abstract.

Claim 22 of the present application recites a nonvolatile storage array organized in digits having non-uniform bases and a respective number of bits according to its base minus one. Applicant submits that nowhere in Mizuno is there disclosed a nonvolatile storage array organized in digits having non-uniform bases and a respective number of bits according to its base minus one. Therefore, claim 22 is patentable over Mizuno.

Claims 28-30 and 33-41 depend from claim 22 and include additional features. Thus, claims 28-30 and 33-41 are also patentable over Mizuno.

Claim 23 recites a nonvolatile storage array organized in digits having non-uniform bases and a respective number of bits according to its base minus one. Thus, for the reasons described above with respect to claim 22, claim 23 is also patentable over claim Mizuno.

Claims 22-23 and 28-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Stodieck (U.S. Patent No. 5,450,460). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over Stodieck.

Stodieck discloses a non-volatile electronic counter that provides a substantially increased maximum count by utilizing a ring counting sequence to count the first  $n-1$  events out of every  $n$  events, and a base-2 counting sequence to count each  $n$ th event. Each counting position of the ring counting sequence and the base-2 counting sequence is implemented with a memory stage that stores the logical state of the counting position when power is removed. Each memory stage can be implemented with redundant memory cells and voting logic, which provides the logic state represented by a majority of the redundant memory cells, to increase the reliability of the count.

Nevertheless, Stodieck does not disclose a nonvolatile storage array organized in digits having non-uniform bases and a respective number of bits according to its base minus one, as recited in claims 22 and 23. Therefore, the present claims are patentable over Stodieck.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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